

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. The current status of claims 1-35 is as follows:

1. (Currently Amended). A latching device comprising:

a housing including at least one detent;

a bolt configured for sliding at least partially within said housing between a retracted position and an extended position, where said bolt extends beyond said housing, said bolt including an outer side and an inner side; and,

a spring member ~~in communication with~~ operatively coupled to said bolt proximate to said inner side of said bolt, said spring member configured for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said housing and including a portion configured for engaging said at least one detent of said housing to retain said bolt in said extended position; and,

said housing extending around substantially all of said bolt and configured for confining at least lateral and vertical movement of said bolt along said outer side.

2. (Original). The latching device of claim 1, wherein said at least one detent includes at least two detents and said detents include protrusions extending from said housing.

3. (Original). The latching device of claim 1, additionally comprising:

a trailer in communication with said spring member, said trailer configured for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said housing and limiting travel of said bolt.

4. (Original). The latching device of claim 3, wherein said trailer includes a lip for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said housing and limiting travel of said bolt.

5. (Previously Presented). The latching device of claim 1, wherein said spring member includes an arm configured for exhibiting spring-like behavior, said arm including a tip, said tip defining said portion of said spring member configured for engaging said at least one detent of said housing to retain said bolt in said extended position.

6. (Currently Amended). The latching device of claim 1, wherein said housing includes oppositely disposed grooves extending therethrough and said bolt includes lateral portions with edges on said outer side for receipt in said respective grooves.

7. (Original). The latching device of claim 10, additionally comprising:

a tab, said tab in communication with said bolt; and

said housing including a slot for receiving at least a portion of said tab.

8. (Currently Amended). The latching device of claim 1, wherein said housing envelops said bolt by extending completely around said bolt.

9. (Original). The latching device of claim 8, wherein said housing includes an outer surface configured for fitting in a correspondingly shaped track in a structure.

10. (Currently Amended). A latching device comprising:

a housing including at least one detent;

a bolt configured for sliding at least partially within said housing between a retracted position and an extended position, where said bolt extends beyond said housing, said bolt including an outer side and an inner side;

a spring member ~~in communication with~~ operatively coupled to said bolt proximate to said inner side of said bolt, said spring member configured for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said housing and limiting travel of said bolt by engaging said at least one detent; and,

said housing at least partially enveloping said bolt, said housing configured for confining at least lateral and vertical movement of said bolt along said outer side.

11. (Original). The latching device of claim 10, wherein said spring member includes a portion configured for engaging said at least one detent of said housing to retain said bolt in said extended position

12. (Original). The latching device of claim 11, wherein said at least one detent includes at least two detents and said detents include protrusions extending from said housing.

13. (Original). The latching device of claim 10, additionally comprising:

a trailer in communication with said spring member, said trailer configured for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said housing and limiting travel of said bolt.

14. (Original). The latching device of claim 13, wherein said trailer includes a lip for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said housing and limiting travel of said bolt.

15. (Previously Presented). The latching device of claim 10, wherein said spring member includes an arm configured for exhibiting spring-like behavior, said arm including a tip, said tip defining said portion of said spring member configured for engaging said at least one detent of said housing to retain said bolt in said extended position.

16. (Currently Amended). The latching device of claim 10, wherein said housing includes oppositely disposed grooves extending therethrough and said bolt includes lateral portions with edges on said outer side for receipt in said respective grooves.

17. (Original). The latching device of claim 10, additionally comprising:

a tab, said tab in communication with said bolt; and

said housing including a slot for receiving at least a portion of said tab.

18. (Original). The latching device of claim 10, wherein said housing includes an outer surface configured for fitting in a correspondingly shaped track in a structure.

19. (Currently Amended). A latching device comprising:

a housing including at least one detent and at least one slot;

a bolt configured for sliding at least partially within said housing between a retracted position and an extended position, where said bolt extends beyond said housing, said bolt including an outer side and an inner side;

a spring member ~~in communication with~~ operatively coupled to said bolt, said spring member configured for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said housing and including a portion configured for engaging said at least one detent of said housing to retain said bolt in said extended position;

said housing configured for extending around substantially all of said bolt for confining at least lateral and vertical movement of said bolt along the outer side of said bolt, and,

a tab in communication with said bolt, at least a portion of said tab configured for being received in and moving in said at least one slot.

20. (Previously Presented). The latching device of claim 19, wherein said at least one detent includes at least two detents and said detents include protrusions extending from said housing.

21. (Previously Presented). The latching device of claim 19, additionally comprising:

a trailer in communication with said spring member, said trailer configured for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said housing and limiting travel of said bolt.

22. (Previously Presented). The latching device of claim 21, wherein said trailer includes a lip for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said housing and limiting travel of said bolt.

23. (Previously Presented). The latching device of claim 19, wherein said spring member includes an arm configured for exhibiting spring-like behavior, said arm including a tip, said tip defining said portion of said spring member configured for engaging said at least one detent of said housing to retain said bolt in said extended position.

24. (Currently Amended). The latching device of claim 19, wherein said housing includes oppositely disposed grooves extending therethrough and said bolt includes lateral portions with edges on said outer side for receipt in said respective grooves.

25. (Previously Presented). The latching device of claim 19, wherein said slot is configured for confining movement of the at least a portion of said tab, for limiting the movement of said bolt in said extended position.

26. (Previously Presented). The latching device of claim 19, wherein said housing envelops said bolt.

27. (Previously Presented). The latching device of claim 26, wherein said housing includes an outer surface configured for fitting in a correspondingly shaped track in a structure.

28. (Currently Amended). A latching device comprising:

a housing including an internal cavity, the internal cavity including at least one detent, and oppositely disposed grooves extending longitudinally along said housing in said internal cavity;

a bolt configured for sliding at least partially within said housing between a retracted position and an extended position, where said bolt extends beyond said housing, the bolt including ~~outwardly protruding and~~ oppositely disposed lateral portions including edges, said edges extending longitudinally, for receipt in the said oppositely disposed grooves along said housing; and,

a spring member ~~in communication with~~ operatively coupled to said bolt, said spring member configured for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said internal cavity of said housing and including a portion configured for engaging said at least one detent of said housing to retain said bolt in said extended position.

29. (Currently Amended). The latching device of claim 28, wherein said at least one detent includes at least two detents and said detents include protrusions extending into said internal cavity of ~~from~~ said housing.

30. (Currently Amended). The latching device of claim 28, additionally comprising:

a trailer in communication with said spring member, said trailer configured for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said internal cavity of said housing and limiting travel of said bolt.

31. (Currently Amended). The latching device of claim 30, wherein said trailer includes a lip for at least partially retaining said bolt in a frictionally snug and slideable engagement within said internal cavity of said housing and limiting travel of said bolt.

32. (Currently Amended). The latching device of claim 28, wherein said spring member includes an arm configured for exhibiting spring-like behavior, said arm including a tip, said tip defining said portion of said spring member configured for engaging said at least one detent of ~~said housing~~ to retain said bolt in said extended position.

33. (Previously Presented). The latching device of claim 28, additionally comprising:
a tab, said tab in communication with said bolt; and
said housing including a slot for receiving at least a portion of said tab.

34. (Currently Amended). The latching device of claim 28, wherein said housing envelops said bolt by extending completely around said bolt.

35. (Previously Presented). The latching device of claim 34, wherein said housing includes an outer surface configured for fitting in a correspondingly shaped track in a structure.